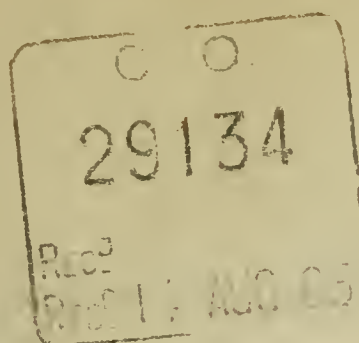




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THE MEDICAL REPORT

FOR THE

STATE OF PERAK,

1904.



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RETURN OF THE STATISTICS OF POPULATION OF PERAK

FOR THE YEAR 1904.

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RETURN OF THE STATISTICS OF POPULATION OF PERAK
FOR THE YEAR 1904.

	Europeans and Eurasians.	Chinese.	Malays.	Tamils.	Others.
Number of Inhabitants in 1903	2,200	195,234	148,964	33,187	951
„ Births during the year 1904... ..	74	1,210	5,151	602	106
„ Deaths „ „	15	7,514	3,030	1,163	191
„ Immigrants „ „	872	31,318	8,336	5,850	
„ Emigrants „ „	608	23,574	7,436	5,162	
„ Inhabitants in 1904... ..	2,523	196,674	151,985	33,314	866
Increase	323	1,440	3,021	127	
Decrease ... ..	...	...	...	...	85

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN OF TAIPING FOR THE YEAR 1904.

			Temperature.						Rainfall.		Winds.	
			Solar Maximum.	Minimum on Grass.	Shade Maximum.	Shade Minimum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in Inches.	Degree of Humidity.	General Direction.	Average force.
January	151.00	56.50	89.0	68.5	20.5	77.00	22.34	84	No record.	No record.
February	...	...	153.00	66.00	92.0	69.5	22.5	78.06	17.14	82
March	...	...	153.00	66.00	93.0	68.5	24.5	80.43	6.12	75
April	...	...	155.00	66.00	92.0	70.0	22.0	79.12	17.12	79
May	...	...	154.00	68.00	93.0	71.0	22.0	80.56	19.73	79
June	...	...	150.00	69.00	94.0	71.0	23.0	81.07	6.51	75
July	...	...	151.00	67.00	93.0	70.0	23.0	80.04	12.37	77
August	...	...	149.00	67.00	94.0	69.0	25.0	79.90	7.99	75
September	...	...	153.00	67.00	93.5	69.0	23.5	80.14	7.57	75
October	...	...	155.00	70.00	91.0	71.0	20.0	78.70	11.34	83
November	...	...	154.00	68.00	92.0	71.0	21.0	79.01	16.73	82
December	...	...	156.00	68.00	91.0	70.0	21.0	78.05	9.77	82
Mean	152.83	66.54	92.3	69.9	22.4	79.34	154.81 Total	79		

RETURN OF DISEASES AND DEATHS IN 1904 AT THE FOLLOWING
INSTITUTIONS:—

THIRTEEN DISTRICT HOSPITALS AT TAIPING, KUALA KANGSAR, BATU GAJAH, GOPENG, IPOH, KAMPAR, TELUK ANSON, TAPAH, PARIT BUNTAR, BAGAN SERAI, SELAMA, LENGGONG AND TANJONG MALIM; TWO GAOL HOSPITALS AT TAIPING AND BATU GAJAH; ONE LUNATIC ASYLUM AT TAIPING; TWO LEPER ASYLUMS AT PULAU JEREJAK AND PULAU PANGKOR LAUT.

Diseases.						* Remaining in Hospital at end of 1903.	Yearly Total.		† Total Cases Treated.	‡ Remaining in Hospital at end of 1904.	
							Admis- sions.	Deaths.			
GENERAL DISEASES.											
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	...
Typhus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dengue	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...
Plague	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mumps	...	...	...	...	...	1	13	...	14	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Febricula	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	9	19	1
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	78	1,775	614	1,853	89
Yellow Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Beri-beri	...	...	...	...	...	451	3,963	1,143	4,414	303
Malarial Fever—											
(a) Intermittent—											
Quotidian	...	...	...	...	...	25	520	14	545	14
Tertian	...	...	...	...	...	1	14	1	15	...
Quartan	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	4	...
Irregular	...	...	...	...	...	1	105	6	106	9
Type undiagnosed	...	...	...	...	...	68	3,315	103	3,383	93
(b) Remittent	...	...	...	...	...	1	336	108	337	7
(c) Pernicious R.	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	6	14	...
Phagedæna—											
(a) Sloughing	...	...	...	...	...	3	63	28	66	7
(b) Hospital gangrene	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	3	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	33	1	33	1
Carried forward						...	630	10,187	2,036	10,817	526

* i.e., the year previous to that for which the Return is made.

† “Total cases treated” will, of course, include those remaining in Hospital at the end of the previous year.

‡ The figures in this column to be carried on to the next year’s Return.

Diseases.						* Remaining in Hospital at end of 1903.	Yearly Total.		† Total Cases Treated.	‡ Remaining in Hospital at end of 1904.
							Admis- sions.	Deaths.		
GENERAL DISEASES---(cont.)										
<i>Brought forward</i> ...						630	10,187	2,036	10,817	526
Pyæmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	2	5	2
Septicæmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	3	...
Tetanus	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Tubercle	...	...	...	...	...	9	27	5	36	2
Leprosy—										
(a) Tubercular	...	...	...	...	...	111	235	83	346	152
(b) Anæsthetic	...	...	...	...	...
Yaws	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	...	13	...
Syphilis—										
(a) Primary	...	...	...	...	...	23	175	3	198	8
(b) Secondary	...	...	...	...	...	107	1,286	63	1,393	105
(c) Inherited	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	4	...
Gonorrhœa	...	...	...	...	...	10	236	3	246	9
Hydrophobia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scurvy	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	2	...
Alcoholism	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3	2
Delirium Tremens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rheumatic Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...
Rheumatism	...	...	...	...	...	14	173	7	187	7
Gout	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
New Growth, non-malignant	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	2	17	3
Do. malignant	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	7	14	1
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Anæmia	...	...	...	...	...	23	519	75	542	38
Myxœdema	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diabetes mellitus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do. insipidus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Debility	...	...	...	...	...	26	372	62	398	13
Other Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	5	59	31	64	...
<i>Carried forward</i> ...						959	13,333	2,383	14,292	868

* i.e., the year previous to that for which the Return is made.

† "Total cases treated" will, of course, include those remaining in Hospital at the end of the previous year.

‡ The figures in this column to be carried on to the next year's Return.

Diseases.	* Remaining in Hospital at end of 1903.	Yearly Total.		† Total Cases Treated.	‡ Remaining in Hospital at end of 1904.
		Admis- sions.	Deaths.		
<i>Brought forward</i> ...	959	13,333	2,383	14,292	868
LOCAL DISEASES.					
NERVOUS SYSTEM.					
Sub-Section 1—					
Neuritis	4	42	2	46	3
Meningitis ... ..	...	11	8	11	3
Myelitis ... ..	...	7	4	7	1
Hydrocephalus ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Abscess of Brain ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Congestion of Brain ... ..	...	3	...	3	...
Sub-Section 2—					
Apoplexy ... ..	...	8	3	8	1
Paralysis	8	35	11	43	6
Bed-sore ... ..	...	2	2	2	...
Chorea ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Epilepsy ... ..	...	20	4	20	1
Neuralgia	1	8	...	9	...
Hysteria ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Sub-Section 3—					
Idiocy ... ..	...	7	2	7	4
Mania	46	38	19	84	28
Melancholia	36	30	14	66	33
Dementia	14	24	9	38	17
Delusional Insanity	16	26	8	42	14
Other Diseases of the System	7	81	22	88	15
EYE.					
Conjunctiva—					
Conjunctivitis	5	104	...	109	11
Cornea—					
Keratitis	1	29	1	30	2
Ulceration	7	80	1	87	4
Opacity	4	12	...	16	1
<i>Carried forward</i> ...	1,108	13,901	2,493	15,009	1,012

* i.e., the year previous to that for which the Return is made.

† “Total cases treated” will, of course, include those remaining in Hospital at the end of the previous year.

‡ The figures in this column to be carried on to the next year’s Return.

Diseases.	* Remaining in Hospital at end of 1903.	Yearly Total.		† Total Cases Treated.	‡ Remaining in Hospital at end of 1904.
		Admis- sions.	Deaths.		
<i>Brought forward</i> ...	1,108	13,901	2,493	15,009	1,012
LOCAL DISEASES—(<i>cont.</i>)					
EYE—(<i>cont.</i>)					
Schlerotic—					
Staphyloma... ..	...	3	1	3	...
Iris—					
Iritis ... ..	...	19	...	19	2
Glaucoma ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Hypopyon ... ..	...	5	...	5	...
Lens—					
Cataract	1	11	2	12	2
Eyelids—					
Entropion ... ..	...	6	...	6	1
Other Eye Diseases	7	36	...	43	3
EAR.					
Inflammation ... ..	...	3	...	3	...
Other Ear Diseases ... ..	...	9	...	9	2
NOSE.					
Inflammation ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Other Nose Diseases ... ..	...	6	...	6	...
CIRCULATORY SYSTEM.					
Membranes—					
Pericarditis... ..	...	2	1	2	...
Endocarditis ... ..	...	1	...	1	...
Valvular Diseases	6	148	56	154	7
Muscular Substance—					
Hypertrophy ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Dilatation ... ..	...	5	4	5	...
Other Diseases of the System ... ..	...	9	1	9	1
RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.					
Larynx—					
Laryngitis	1	4	1	5	...
<i>Carried forward</i> ...	1,123	14,168	2,559	15,291	1,030

* *i.e.*, the year previous to that for which the Return is made.

† “Total cases treated” will, of course, include those remaining in Hospital at the end of the previous year.

‡ The figures in this column to be carried on to the next year’s Return.

Diseases.	* Remaining in Hospital at end of 1903.	Yearly Total.		† Total Cases Treated	‡ Remaining in Hospital at end of 1904.
		Admis- sions.	Deaths.		
<i>Brought forward</i> ...	1,123	14,168	2,559	15,291	1,030
LOCAL DISEASES—(<i>cont.</i>)					
RESPIRATORY SYSTEM—(<i>cont.</i>)					
Bronchi—					
Bronchitis	7	287	29	294	11
Asthma	1	88	3	89	1
Lung—					
Congestion ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Hæmoptysis ... ..	...	18	5	18	1
Pneumonia	4	158	73	162	6
Gangrene ... ..	...	3	3	3	...
Phthisis	39	607	329	646	31
Emphysema ... ..	...	4	2	4	...
Pleura—					
Pleurisy	2	40	8	42	2
Empyema	1	4	3	5	...
Other Diseases of the System	2	10	6	12	1
DIGESTIVE SYSTEM.					
Mouth—					
Stomatitis ... ..	...	25	1	25	...
Dental Periostium—					
Gum-boil ... ..	...	8	...	8	1
Fauces—					
Tonsillitis ... ..	...	3	...	3	...
Stomach—					
Gastritis	2	34	1	36	...
Dyspepsia ... ..	...	70	3	70	1
Intestines—					
Enteritis ... ..	...	6	2	6	...
Sprue ... ..	...	3	1	3	...
Hernia	2	18	5	20	...
Constipation ... ..	...	92	...	92	...
Diarrhoea	47	904	232	951	35
<i>Carried forward</i> ...	1,230	16,550	3,265	17,780	1,120

* i.e., the year previous to that for which the Return is made.

† "Total cases treated" will, of course, include those remaining in Hospital at the end of the previous year.

‡ The figures in this column to be carried on to the next year's Return.

Diseases.	* Remaining in Hospital at end of 1903.	Yearly Total.		† Total Cases Treated.	‡ Remaining in Hospital at end of 1904.
		Admis- sions.	Deaths.		
<i>Brought forward</i> ...	1,230	16,550	3,265	17,780	1,120
LOCAL DISEASES—(<i>cont.</i>)					
DIGESTIVE SYSTEM—(<i>cont.</i>)					
Rectum and Anus —					
Hemorrhoids	1	18	4	19	1
Liver—					
Hepatitis ... ..	...	26	6	26	...
Abscess Liver	1	11	10	12	...
Cirrhosis ... ..	...	12	6	12	2
Congestion Liver ... ..	...	3	...	3	...
Jaundice	2	30	13	32	2
Peritoneum—					
Peritonitis ... ..	...	17	13	17	1
Ascites	10	117	45	127	14
Other Diseases of the System	2	114	15	116	4
LYMPHATIC SYSTEM.					
Spleen—					
Splenitis ... ..	...	44	1	44	1
Bubo	6	181	5	187	11
Lymphangitis	1	8	2	9	...
Elephantiasis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases of the System	14	124	37	138	2
URINARY SYSTEM.					
Kidney—					
Acute Nephritis	2	36	12	38	3
Bright's Disease	17	170	57	187	12
Hæmaturia ... ..	...	3	...	3	...
Chyluria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Bladder—					
Cystitis	1	12	...	13	...
Calculus ... ..	...	8	...	8	1
Other Diseases of the System ... ..	...	13	...	13	1
<i>Carried forward</i> ...	1,287	17,497	3,491	18,784	1,175

* *i.e.*, the year previous to that for which the Return is made.

† "Total cases treated" will, of course, include those remaining in Hospital at the end of the previous year.

‡ The figures in this column to be carried on to the next year's Return

Diseases.	* Remaining in Hospital at end of 1903.	Yearly Total.		† Total Cases Treated.	‡‡ Remaining in Hospital at end of 1904.
		Admis- sions.	Deaths.		
<i>Brought forward</i> ...	1,287	17,497	3,491	18,784	1,175
LOCAL DISEASES—(<i>cont.</i>)					
GENERATIVE SYSTEM.					
Urethra—					
Stricture ...	1	20	2	21	...
Prepuce—					
Phimosis ...	1	15	...	16	...
Paraphimosis ...	...	11	...	11	...
Penis—					
Soft Chancre ...	1	180	2	181	9
Scrotum—					
Sloughing Scrotum ...	...	12	1	12	1
Tunica Vaginalis—					
Hydrocele ...	1	14	...	15	1
Testicle—					
Orchitis ...	...	46	1	46	1
Epididymitis ...	...	6	...	6	...
Other Diseases (male) ...	2	31	2	33	1
Uterus—					
Metritis ...	...	2	...	2	...
Uterine Displacements ...	...	...	...	...	...
Amenorrhœa ...	...	1	...	1	...
Dysmenorrhœa ...	...	1	...	1	...
Menorrhagia ...	...	4	...	4	1
Leucorrhœa ...	...	1	...	1	...
Other Diseases (female) ...	...	29	3	29	3
ORGANS OF LOCOMOTION.					
Bones—					
Ostitis ...	...	2	...	2	...
Periostitis ...	...	11	...	11	1
Caries ...	...	5	...	5	...
Necrosis ...	5	8	3	13	...
<i>Carried forward</i> ...	1,298	17,896	3,505	19,194	1,193

* i.e., the year previous to that for which the Return is made.

† "Total cases treated" will, of course, include those remaining in Hospital at the end of the previous year.

‡‡ The figures in this column to be carried on to the next year's Return.

Diseases.	* Remaining in Hospital at end of 1903.	Yearly Total.		† Total Cases Treated.	‡ Remaining in Hospital at end of 1904.
		Admis- sions.	Deaths.		
<i>Brought forward</i> ...	1,298	17,896	3,505	19,194	1,193
LOCAL DISEASES—(<i>cont.</i>)					
ORGANS OF LOCOMOTION—(<i>cont.</i>)					
Joints—					
Synovitis	7	47	5	54	7
Ankylosis	1	10	...	11	...
Spine—					
Caries Spine ... ..	...	3	...	3	...
Curvature Spine ... ..	...	2	2	2	...
Muscles—					
Myalgia ... ..	...	20	...	20	1
Other Diseases	3	26	2	29	6
CONNECTIVE TISSUE.					
Cellulitis	2	77	11	79	2
Abscess	30	519	22	549	29
Gangrene ... ..	...	11	9	11	2
Other Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
* SKIN.					
Eczema	13	371	10	384	14
Psoriasis ... ..	...	4	...	4	...
Herpes... ..	...	5	...	5	...
Do. Zoster... ..	...	3	...	3	...
Ulcer	177	2,334	64	2,511	204
Boil ... ..	...	27	1	27	2
Carbuncle	3	29	2	32	2
Onychia ... ..	...	8	...	8	...
Whitlow ... ..	...	7	...	7	...
Other Diseases	3	20	2	23	...
GENERAL INJURIES.					
Burns and Scalds	2	4	2	6	...
Sunstroke ... ..	...	1	1	1	...
Multiple Injury	1	3	1	4	...
<i>Carried forward</i> ...	1,540	21,427	3,639	22,967	1,462

* *i.e.*, the year previous to that for which the Return is made.

† "Total cases treated" will, of course, include those remaining in Hospital at the end of the previous year.

‡ The figures in this column to be carried on to the next year's Return.

Diseases.	* Remaining in Hospital at end of 1903.	Yearly Total.		† Total Cases Treated.	‡ Remaining in Hospital at end of 1904.
		Admis- sions.	Deaths.		
<i>Brought forward</i> ...	1,540	21,427	3,639	22,967	1,462
GENERAL INJURIES—(<i>cont.</i>)					
Starvation ...	...	4	4	4	...
Shock ...	...	1	1	1	...
LOCAL INJURIES.					
Burns and Scalds ...	2	56	4	58	3
Wounds ...	27	956	15	983	40
Sprains ...	...	35	...	35	1
Dislocations ...	...	13	2	13	...
Fractures, simple ...	5	73	5	78	7
Do. compound...	7	38	11	45	4
Other Injuries ...	6	192	6	198	6
Surgical Operations—					
Amputation leg ...	1	6	2	7	1
Parturition ...	...	1	...	1	...
Laparotomy ...	...	1	...	1	...
Perineal Section ...	...	2	...	2	...
Obstetric Craniotomy ...	...	1	...	1	...
Minor Operations ...	1	10	...	11	1
Malformations ...	...	...	...	...	...
POISONS.					
Mercury ...	...	4	...	4	1
Alcohol ...	...	5	1	5	...
Opium... ...	...	4	...	4	...
Other Poisons...	...	6	1	6	1
Poisoned Wounds ...	5	41	3	46	1
PARASITES.					
Distomum Sinense ...	...	1	1	1	...
Tœnia Solium... ...	...	1	...	1	...
Ascaris Lumbricoides ...	2	78	...	80	1
Anchylostomum Duodenale ...	2	26	11	28	2
<i>Carried forward</i> ...	1,598	22,982	3,706	24,580	1,531

* i.e., the year previous to that for which the Return is made.

† “Total cases treated” will, of course, include those remaining in Hospital at the end of the previous year.

‡ The figures in this column to be carried on to the next year’s Return.

Diseases.					* Remaining in Hospital at end of 1903.	Yearly Total.		† Total Cases Treated.	‡ Remaining in Hospital at end of 1904.
						Admis- sions.	Deaths.		
Brought forward ...					1,598	22,982	3,706	24,580	1,531
PARASITES—(cont.)									
Oxyuris Vermicularis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Filaria Medinensis	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
Acarus Scabiei	...	...	...	...	1	116	...	117	4
Tinea Circinata	...	...	...	...	1	15	...	16	...
Other Parasites	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	5	...
Under Observation	...	...	...	...	9	93	2	102	20
TOTAL ...					1,609	23,213	3,709	24,822	1,555

* *i.e.*, the year previous to that for which the Return is made.
† “Total cases treated” will, of course, include those remaining in Hospital at the end of the previous year.
‡ The figures in this column to be carried on to the next year’s Return.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

STATE OF PERAK.

THE PERAK MEDICAL REPORT FOR 1904.

STATISTICS OF POPULATION.

The estimated population for 1904 is 385,362, an apparent increase of 4,826 over the records of the year before. For these figures, however, no accuracy could be claimed. The returns of immigration and emigration are only from the two chief ports. No returns are available of the people who enter or quit the State by the railway. From the latter Department I learn that there has been a large increase of revenue from the passenger traffic. Further that a considerable body of Chinese coolies have come into the State by rail viâ Penang. The results of the returns from which this report is compiled show only an increase of 1,440 amongst the Chinese population in Perak. This certainly does not correctly represent the actual state of matters.

2. Births amount to 7,143, being an increase on the 1903 total by 117. The rise in number of births occurs amongst the Europeans and Eurasians, Chinese and those classed together under head "others." There has been a small decrease in numbers of births amongst Malays and Tamils. The birth-rate is 18.53 per mille.

3. Deaths total up to 11,913, a reduction of 177 compared with 1903. The Tamils only have had a decrease in the number of deaths, by 417. Amongst the other races there was an increase. The death-rate per thousand of the estimated population is 30.91.

Taking the different races separately the rates of mortality are as follows:

Europeans and Eurasians	...	...	...	...	5.94 per mille
Chinese	...	...	...	...	38.20 „ „
Malays	...	...	...	...	19.93 „ „
Tamils	...	...	...	...	34.91 „ „
Others	...	...	...	...	220.55 „ „

4. Comparing the deaths with births the former exceeds the latter by 4,770. This excess occurs amongst the Chinese (6,304) and Tamils (561), "Others" (85). On the other hand the Europeans and Eurasians had 59 and the Malays 2,121 more births than deaths.

The State depends chiefly on the Chinese and Tamils for its labour force, and under the existing circumstances has to recruit its coolies from outside. Considerable tracts of the country still remain untouched and covered by virgin forest and are available for settling Chinese and Tamil families on. In a small way a few Chinese with their wives and children have been induced to immigrate and settle at Sitiawan. It would repay Government to largely increase the number of such settlers and give them encouragement to acquire an interest in and become permanent residents of the State. Not only will this directly lead to the opening up of land now lying idle but in time the descendant of these people will furnish acclimatised coolies if not spoilt for the work of labourers by the Educational Department.

DISTRICT HOSPITALS.

5. IN-DOOR RETURNS.—On the 31st of December, 1903, there were remaining 1,334 patients in the 12 old District Hospitals. During 1904 admissions added to these 21,550 cases, thus bringing the total treated during the year up to 22,884—1,807 fewer than in the former year. A total of 17,333 were discharged cured or improved. Three hundred and twenty-nine absconded. The total number of deaths were 3,537—an increase of 282. Out of the 3,537 deaths 815 occurred within 48 hours of the admission of patients to the hospitals.

STATEMENT OF DEATHS INCLUSIVE OF ALL FATAL CASES.

Hospital.						1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
Taiping	...	...	...	...	...	557	502	...	55
Kuala Kangsar	...	...	...	...	...	110	123	13	
Batu Gajah	...	...	...	...	...	533	769	236	
Gopeng...	...	...	...	...	...	378	338	...	40
Ipoh	...	...	...	...	...	711	691	...	20
Kampar	...	...	...	...	...	261	305	44	
Teluk Anson	...	...	...	...	...	118	124	6	
Tapah	...	...	...	...	...	325	380	55	
Parit Buntar	...	...	...	...	...	91	83	...	8
Bagan Serai	...	...	...	...	...	157	188	31	
Selama	...	...	...	...	...	7	7		
Lenggong	...	...	...	...	...	7	13	6	
Tanjong Malim	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	14	
Total						3,255	3,537	282	

STATEMENT OF DEATHS WITHIN 48 HOURS OF ADMISSION.

Hospital.						1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
Taiping	...	...	...	...	...	120	99	...	21
Kuala Kangsar	...	...	...	...	...	35	39	4	
Batu Gajah	...	...	...	...	...	80	116	36	
Gopeng	...	...	...	...	...	97	74	...	23
Ipoh	...	...	...	...	...	207	214	7	
Kampar	...	...	...	...	...	105	125	20	
Teluk Anson	...	...	...	...	...	21	24	3	
Tapah	...	...	...	...	...	63	75	12	
Parit Buntar	...	...	...	...	...	15	15		
Bagan Serai	...	...	...	...	...	23	26	3	
Selama	...	...	...	...	...	2	2		
Lenggong	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	1	
Tanjong Malim	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	
Total						771	815	44	

PERCENTAGE OF DEATHS INCLUSIVE OF ALL FATAL CASES.

Hospital.						1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
Taiping	...	...	...	...	...	17.49	18.58	1.09	
Kuala Kangsar	...	...	...	...	...	8.12	8.36	.24	
Batu Gajah	...	...	...	...	...	14.30	21.42	7.12	
Gopeng...	...	...	...	...	...	11.63	15.85	4.22	
Ipoh	...	...	...	...	...	18.28	19.66	1.38	
Kampar	...	...	...	...	...	13.97	15.77	1.80	
Teluk Anson	...	...	...	...	...	15.07	18.10	3.03	
Tapah	...	...	...	...	...	13.08	17.96	4.88	
Parit Buntar	...	...	...	...	...	6.67	6.93	.26	
Bagan Serai	...	...	...	...	...	6.73	6.02	...	.71
Selama	...	...	...	...	...	6.66	10.29	3.63	
Lenggong	...	...	...	...	...	4.63	7.73	3.10	
Tanjong Malim	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.48	7.48	
Total						13.18	15.45	2.27	

PERCENTAGE OF DEATHS EXCLUSIVE OF THOSE DYING WITHIN 48 HOURS OF ADMISSION

Hospital.	1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
Taiping	14.26	15.48	1.22	
Kuala Kangsar	5.68	5.86	.18	
Batu Gajah	11.77	18.78	7.01	
Gopeng	8.91	12.82	3.91	
Ipoh	13.69	14.45	.76	
Kampar	8.84	9.95	1.11	
Teluk Anson	12.73	15.12	2.39	
Tapah	10.82	14.95	4.13	
Parit Buntar	5.63	5.84	.21	
Bagan Serai	5.80	5.23	...	.57
Selama	4.85	7.57	2.62	
Lenggong	2.64	5.48	2.84	
Tanjong Malim ... ..	...	6.48	6.48	
Total ...	10.38	12.33	1.95	

6. DAILY AVERAGE OF SICK AT THE THIRTEEN DISTRICT HOSPITALS.

Hospital.	1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
Taiping	200.79	164.55	...	36.24
Kuala Kangsar	66.98	66.37	...	.61
Batu Gajah	197.32	192.45	...	4.87
Gopeng	166.40	166.20	...	.20
Ipoh	204.05	237.25	33.20	
Kampar	50.05	63.16	13.11	
Teluk Anson	45.84	44.54	...	1.30
Tapah	140.17	125.43	...	14.74
Parit Buntar	93.66	70.70	...	22.96
Bagan Serai	120.29	164.56	44.27	
Selama	5.83	5.66	...	.17
Lenggong	5.59	5.96	.37	
Tanjong Malim ... ..	...	7.73	7.73	
Total ...	1,296.97	1,314.56	17.59	

7. NATIONALITIES OF IN-DOOR PATIENTS.

—	1903.	1904.	1904.	
			Increase.	Decrease.
Europeans	70	65	...	5
Eurasians	42	56	14	
Chinese	17,640	16,053	...	1,587
Malays	490	456	...	34
Tamils	5,584	5,135	...	449
Other Asiatics	865	1,119	254	
Total ...	24,691	22,884	...	1,807

REMARKS ON PARTICULAR DISEASES.

8. CHOLERA for the second year in succession did not manifest itself.

9. SMALL-POX.—Forty-seven cases were reported, 16 less than in 1903. Of those attacked 11 died. The largest number occurred in the Batang Padang district, where the disease prevailed mostly amongst the unvaccinated Sakais, with a large percentage of fatal results.

10. BERI-BERI.—A total of 4,414 cases, with 1,143 deaths, giving a rate of mortality of 25.89. The type of disease was acute, and this is the highest percentage of deaths recorded from beri-beri during the last 11 years.

GAOL HOSPITALS.

11. COMPARATIVE TABLE OF GAOL HOSPITALS.

Name of Hospital.			Total Treated.	Total Deaths.	Daily Average.		Percentage of Deaths.
					Sick in Hospital.	Prisoners in Gaol.	
Central Prison	{ 1903	...	669	12	36.21	481.17	1.79
	{ 1904	...	701	17	40.49	556.46	2.42
Batu Gajah Gaol	{ 1903	...	491	16	10.41	186.48	3.25
	{ 1904	...	786	44	15.58	253.30	5.59

The daily average of convicts at these two establishments increased during 1904, and there was in keeping with this larger admissions to the gaol hospitals, a higher daily average of sick in hospital, a greater number of deaths with a slightly higher death-rate. The commitment to prison of vagrants and others the subjects of disease also helped to increase the death- and sick-rate. Especially at the Batu Gajah gaol there was overcrowding. Both institutions were maintained clean and in satisfactory condition. The health of the convicts generally speaking was good, and the food supply left little to be desired in respect of quality and cooking, and was superior to what this class of people are able to procure when free and outside the prisons.

LEPER ASYLUMS.

12. PANGKOR LAUT.—Thirty-three Malay lepers were admitted to the asylum; of these 8 died—24.24 per cent. The deaths being due in most cases to old age and advanced stage of disease.

(2) Contrary to anticipations the lepers, their attendants and police guard on the island have not been troubled much with malaria. Special attention was given to the destruction of the breeding places of the mosquito and to the use of quinine as a prophylactic. In addition all lepers before removal to the asylum were detained at Teluk Anson and given a prolonged course of quinine.

(3) As the result of evidence gained by personal inspection and from monthly reports by the District Surgeon I am in a position to state that we have been successful in making the inmates of this institution contented and interested in their new home. They have repeatedly affirmed that as regards dwellings, food and other actual necessities they are better provided for than in their own kampongs.

(4) The smallness in the number of admissions is due to insufficiency of water supply. A sum of money has been provided by Government to obtain an increased supply from the largest stream on the island and to provide for a considerably larger storage of water to tide over the three or four months during which the rainfall is low.

13. PULAU JEREJAK.—One hundred and forty-three cases were treated in the wards attached to the Colonial Asylum, with 43 deaths—30.07 per cent.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

14. The total treated was 275 against 219 in 1903. The daily average being 113.40.

					1903.			1904.
Total deaths	...	...	...	...	56	...	...	60
Percentage of deaths to total treated	...	...	...	...	25.57	...	...	21.81

For the first time in the history of this institution beri-beri occurred amongst the inmates.

VACCINATION.

15. Total vaccinated 6,332 with 1,758 failures. Of those who returned for inspection 44.82 only were found perfect. There is still reason for one being dissatisfied with the quality of the Saigon lymph. A communication was addressed to the Government of India with the object of obtaining a regular supply of lymph from one of their Vaccine Institutes but no definite arrangement had been arrived at by the end of the year.

OUT-DOOR DEPARTMENT.

16. DISPENSARIES ATTACHED TO HOSPITALS.

Year.				New Cases.		Repetitions.		Total Visits.
1903	...	...	...	29,936	...	16,692	...	46,623
1904	...	...	...	34,060	...	18,731	...	52,791

17. TRAVELLING DISPENSARIES.

Year.	New Cases.				Repetitions.				Total Visits.
1903	19,130				12,477				31,607
1904	9,811				5,394				15,205

On account of shortness of Staff the Dressers attending the Travelling Dispensaries at Kinta and Tapah had to be taken off that particular work and confined to indoor duty at the hospitals. This accounts for the small attendance of cases at these dispensaries.

VETERINARY BRANCH.

18. The Veterinary Surgeon's report gives the history of the various outbreaks of rinderpest during the year. The point that calls for remark is the number of times the disease was imported into this State by cattle sent from the Colony.

(2) The Indian anti-rinderpest serum continued to be effective and was found to be useful and a reliable method of stamping out rinderpest in an infected herd.

(3) Foot-and-mouth disease of the usual mild type occurred, and the Veterinary Surgeon writes that he is not aware of any deaths being attributed to it. Under the circumstances strict quarantine restrictions against foot-and-mouth disease are unnecessary. The disease spreads in spite of quarantine. The latter dislocates traffic and causes a direct loss to the various trades.

(4) Swine fever was also met with but the disease was confined to limited areas.

METEOROLOGY.

19. There is nothing special to remark on. As in 1903 the highest shade temperature recorded was 95° F. at Kuala Kangsar and Tapah. The lowest shade temperature was 63° F. at Gopeng.

RAINFALL.—Taiping again has had the greatest rainfall (154.81 inches) for the twelve months, and for 24 hours, 5.83 inches.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF RAINFALL FOR YEARS 1903 AND 1904.

Station.					1903. Ins.	1904. Ins.
Taiping					146.55	154.81
Kuala Kangsar					68.07	83.21
Batu Gajah					84.10	97.28
Gopeng					101.17	102.67
Ipoh					88.46	78.41
Teluk Anson					96.42	88.41
Tapah					123.76	125.24
Parit Buntar					69.32	85.41
Bagan Serai					79.42	103.57
Selama					111.03	130.64
Kampar					132.13	134.26
Lenggong					58.62	61.20
Pulau Pangkor Laut ... ..					...	84.91

STAFF.

20. A new scheme for Assistant Surgeons and Apothecaries and Dressers came into force from 1st July, 1904. By this scheme the salaries and prospects of the subordinate staff have been greatly improved.

The shortness of staff in the Department has continued and has been a serious hindrance to efficient work.

Government provides for the education of the apothecaries at Madras. In spite, however, of the better prospects offered by the new scheme a difficulty has been experienced in inducing suitable lads to accept the vacancies that exist for student apothecaries.

There is really no provision for education of dressers. The training we now attempt to give to this class of subordinates in our local hospitals is unsatisfactory and could hardly be termed a medical education. The staff for systematically carrying out this education does not exist, and the result is that the dressers do not acquire the necessary knowledge of their duties. No medical schools turn out the class of men required for our hospitals, and repeated advertisements have failed to procure suitable candidates for filling the existing vacancies. The last Medical Conference submitted a scheme for sending selected lads to Madras to be educated as hospital assistants. The recommendations were made two years ago, but up till now no decision has been arrived at on this important matter. The difficulty of obtaining qualified dressers to fill the vacancies in the hospitals is becoming a matter of serious import. The benefits of the new Schemes to the department will be detracted from unless action is taken on the very important educational question and something definite is decided on without delay.

M. J. WRIGHT,

State Surgeon.

